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September 1975

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL TICK SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

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NATIONAL TICK SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

Calendar Year 1974

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NATIONAL TICK SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM

Calendar Year 1974

During calendar year 1974, the collection and submission of ticks from native and imported animals and plant and animal materials were 45 percent more

than in 1973. There were 11,042 collections in 1974, compared with 7,613 in 1973 and 3,645 in 1972.

BOOPHILUS TICK SITUATION IN TEXAS

A total of 87 *Boophilus* infestations were disclosed in Texas during calendar year 1974. As in the past, the majority of these infestations were found in the permanent buffer zone along the Rio Grande River separating Texas from Mexico. There were three areas of infestation outside the buffer zone. One was a small area adjacent to the buffer zone in Starr and Zapata Counties. The second area was larger but still adjacent to the buffer zone near Carrizo Springs. The third area, which was completely separated from the permanent

buffer zone, was located near Alice, Texas.

State and Federal personnel continued intensified tick surveillance activities in Texas during 1974. A total of 5,192 tick collections was made from all hosts in 1974 compared to 6,041 collections in 1973 and 2,268 collections in 1972. There is no reason to believe that the *Boophilus* infestations in Texas have not been contained in the permanent buffer zone and in the three quarantine areas in southern Texas.

AMBLYOMMA VARIEGATUM FOUND IN PUERTO RICO

The tropical bont tick, *Amblyomma variegatum*, was found on livestock at Rio Abajo, Cidra, Puerto Rico in June 1974. A subsequent survey revealed that the tick was established on over 30 premises in the municipalities of Cidra, Cayey and Caguas, which are located approximately 25-30 miles south of San Juan. During 1974, 68 submissions of *A. variegatum* were made from cattle and horses in the infested areas. Thorough investigation of the infestations seems to indicate that the tick could have been in Puerto Rico for 2½-3 years prior to the time it was first found. The tropical bont tick was not known to exist in Puerto Rico prior to June 1974. It was found on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in 1967 and was subsequently eradicated in 1970 following an intensive eradication program. A reinfestation was disclosed in March 1971.

Originally from Africa, the tropical bont tick was first reported from the Western Hemisphere (Antigua) by C. A. Barber in 1895. At that time the natives of Antigua believed it had been introduced 30 to 40 years previously with cattle imported from Senegal. It was later reported from St. Kitts and Guadeloupe.

The tropical bont tick is a serious pest of livestock with a wide host range. The adult and nymphal stages are commonly found on cattle, sheep, goats, and horses. The larval stage prefers birds and small mammals but will attack man. This tick is striking because of the large size attained by the fully engorged female and the beautiful ornamentation of the male. The fully engorged female ingests approximately 10 times the volume of blood as a fully fed *Boophilus* female. In addition to producing large, painful wounds

and sucking much blood, the tropical bont tick is known to transmit *Rickettsia ruminantium* which produces heartwater in cattle, sheep, and goats. It also

transmits the virus of Nairobi sheep disease. Fortunately none of the disease agents has been found associated with the tropical bont tick in Puerto Rico.

COLLECTION OF TICKS FROM WHITE-TAILED DEER

The dramatic increase in the number of tick collections from native wildlife, especially white-tailed deer, is the direct result of effort between 12 southeastern wildlife conservation departments (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia); the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, Department of Parasitology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, Athens; and Emergency Pro-

grams of Veterinary Services, APHIS, USDA, Hyattsville, Maryland.

The survey of the ectoparasites of wildlife populations provides an excellent method of determining if *Boophilus* spp., *Amblyomma variegatum* or other exotic ticks have been introduced into highly vulnerable areas in which the usual livestock tick surveys have not been adequate. Deer serve as hosts for many of the same ticks as livestock but often frequent areas not accessible to livestock.

ARGAS MINIATUS PRODUCES HIGH DEATH LOSSES IN PUERTO RICO

In April 1974 high death losses were reported in a flock of laying chickens on a poultry farm located in southwestern Puerto Rico. The poultry farm contained 7,100 birds in four separate houses. Losses occurred in only two of the houses. The two affected poultry houses contained a total of 4,000 birds, of which 1,200 died, almost all with paralytic signs.

On February 28, 1974, the 4,000 21-week old pullets were placed in the two poultry houses. All the pullets were purchased from the same source. The first pullets started dying of paralysis about 4 days after being placed in the poultry houses. By March 10, almost 900 birds had died. By the third week in April, approximately 1,200 birds had died. Death losses were stopped by individually treating the birds and spraying the poultry houses with approved pesticides. The two poultry houses in which the affected birds were confined were heavily infested with all stages of *Argas miniatus*. The stricken birds were also heavily infested with this tick, especially the larval stage.

The above case history closely parallels the clinical picture observed in pullets placed in poultry houses heavily infested with *Argas persicus*. Similar observa-

tions and mortality rates have been encountered in Maryland where *A. persicus* was incriminated. The classical clinical picture develops in a situation where young, susceptible birds are placed in old, heavily infested poultry houses. The young birds are immediately attacked by all stages of *Argas*, but it is apparently the larval stage which produces the paralysis. Losses may exceed 80 percent, but birds that survive apparently develop a resistance to later attacks by the ticks since paralysis is not common in older birds which survive the initial encounter with *Argas*. Light infestation with *Argas* probably also leads to the development of resistance in susceptible chickens. Death losses become dramatic when susceptible birds are placed in situations where they are overwhelmed with massive infestations of ticks, especially if the poultry house has been vacant for some weeks or months and the ticks are hungry. The birds do not often recover once paralysis has developed, but losses may be stopped in yet unaffected birds by thoroughly treating them and the poultry house with approved pesticides.

TICK TRAINING COURSE IN GUATEMALA

A training course on identification of ticks and methods of eradicating livestock ticks was conducted in Guatemala City, Guatemala, May 20 through 24,

1974. The course was sponsored by Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA). This is a regional organization that works to

protect and promote the health of the plant and animal industries of Central America, Mexico, and Panama.

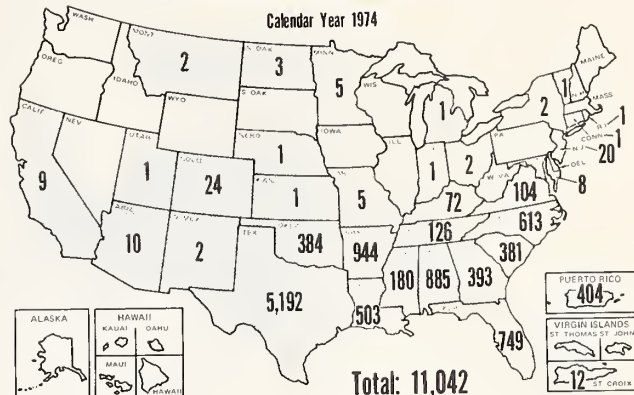
The meeting was held at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the University of San Carlos of Guatemala in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture (Veterinary Services), Secretary of Agriculture and Livestock of Mexico, and the faculty of the Veterinary College. Twenty-two

veterinarians were in attendance from the following countries: Guatemala, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Panama. The purpose of the course was to provide information on livestock ticks and to simulate an interest in a *Boophilus* tick eradication program in Central America and Panama. A similar livestock tick training course was conducted in Venezuela in March 1975.

REPORT OF ALL TICKS COLLECTED
CALENDAR YEAR 1974

STATE	TOTAL	CATTLE	DOGS	HUNTERS & MOLES	ZOO ANIMALS & MISC.	NATIVE WILDLIFE	ANIMALS OFFERED FOR ENTRY
TOTAL	11042	4998	237	585	131	5019	72
Alabama	885	11	8		6	860	
Alaska							5
Arizona	10	4		1			
Arkansas	944	41	1	3	3	896	
California	9	3	1			1	4
Colorado	24		19		2		3
Connecticut	1		1				
Delaware							
Florida	749	30	3	160	4	536	16
Georgia	393	2				391	
Hawaii							
Idaho							
Illinois							
Indiana	1	1					
Iowa							
Kansas	1		1				
Kentucky	72	1			1	70	
Louisiana	503					501	2
Maine							
Maryland	8		2		6		
Massachusetts							
Michigan	1	1					
Minnesota	5		1		4		
Mississippi	180	4				176	
Missouri	5	5					
Montana	2			2			
Nebraska	1			1			
Nevada							
New Hampshire							
New Jersey	20		3	1	1		15
New Mexico	2	1		1			
New York	2				2		
North Carolina	613	1	9		11	591	1
North Dakota	3		2		1		
Ohio	2	1	1				
Oklahoma	384	13	1		2	368	
Oregon							
Pennsylvania							
Rhode Island	1		1				
South Carolina	381				7	374	
South Dakota							
Tennessee	126		1		2	123	
Texas	5192	4658	158	261	59	30	26
Utah	1	1					
Vermont	1				1		
Virginia	104	1			1	102	
Washington							
West Virginia							
Wisconsin							
Wyoming							
Puerto Rico	404	209	24	155	16		
Virgin Islands	12	10			2		

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM ALL HOSTS

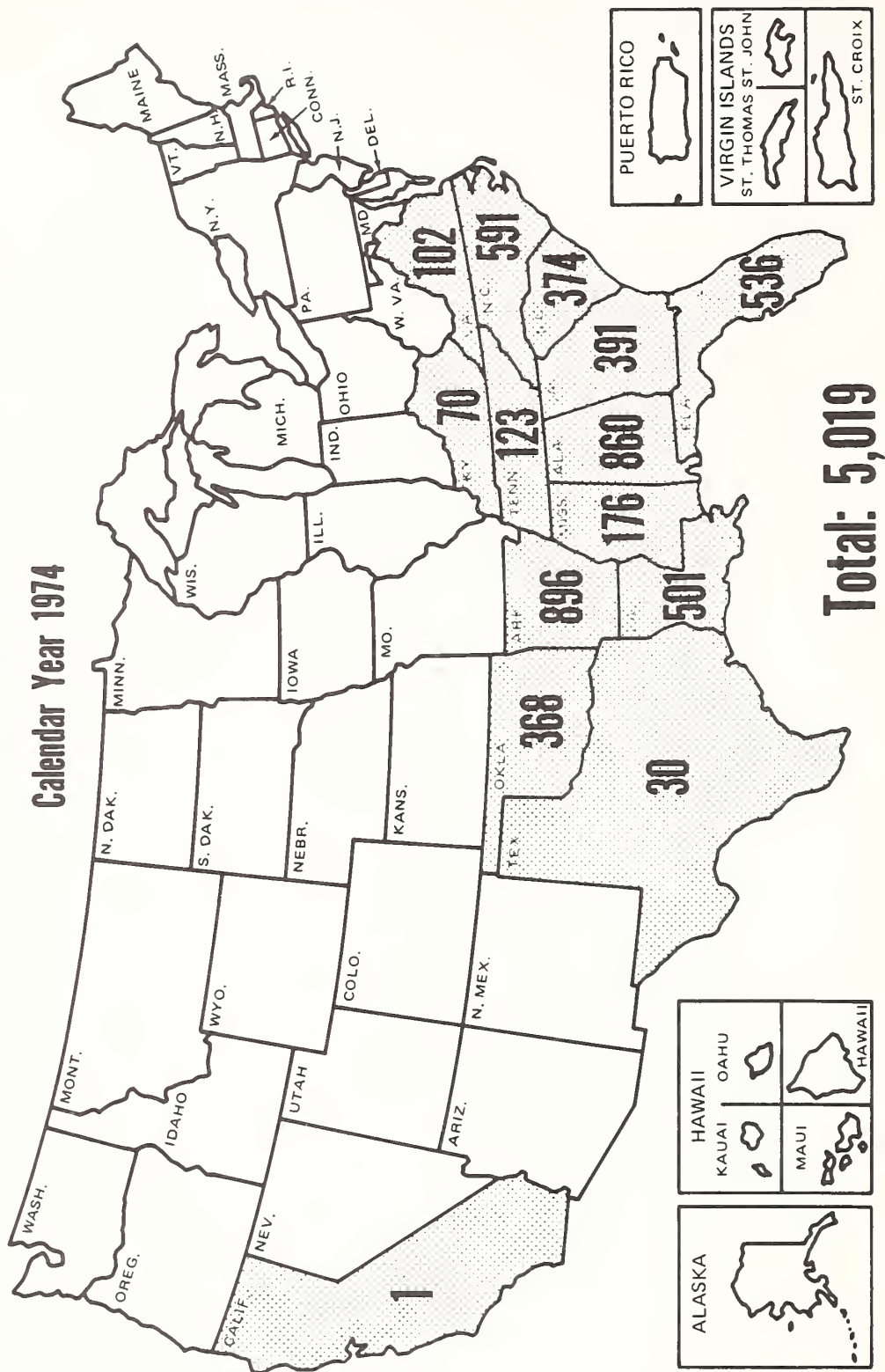


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VETERINARY SERVICES

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM NATIVE WILDLIFE



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VETERINARY SERVICES

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

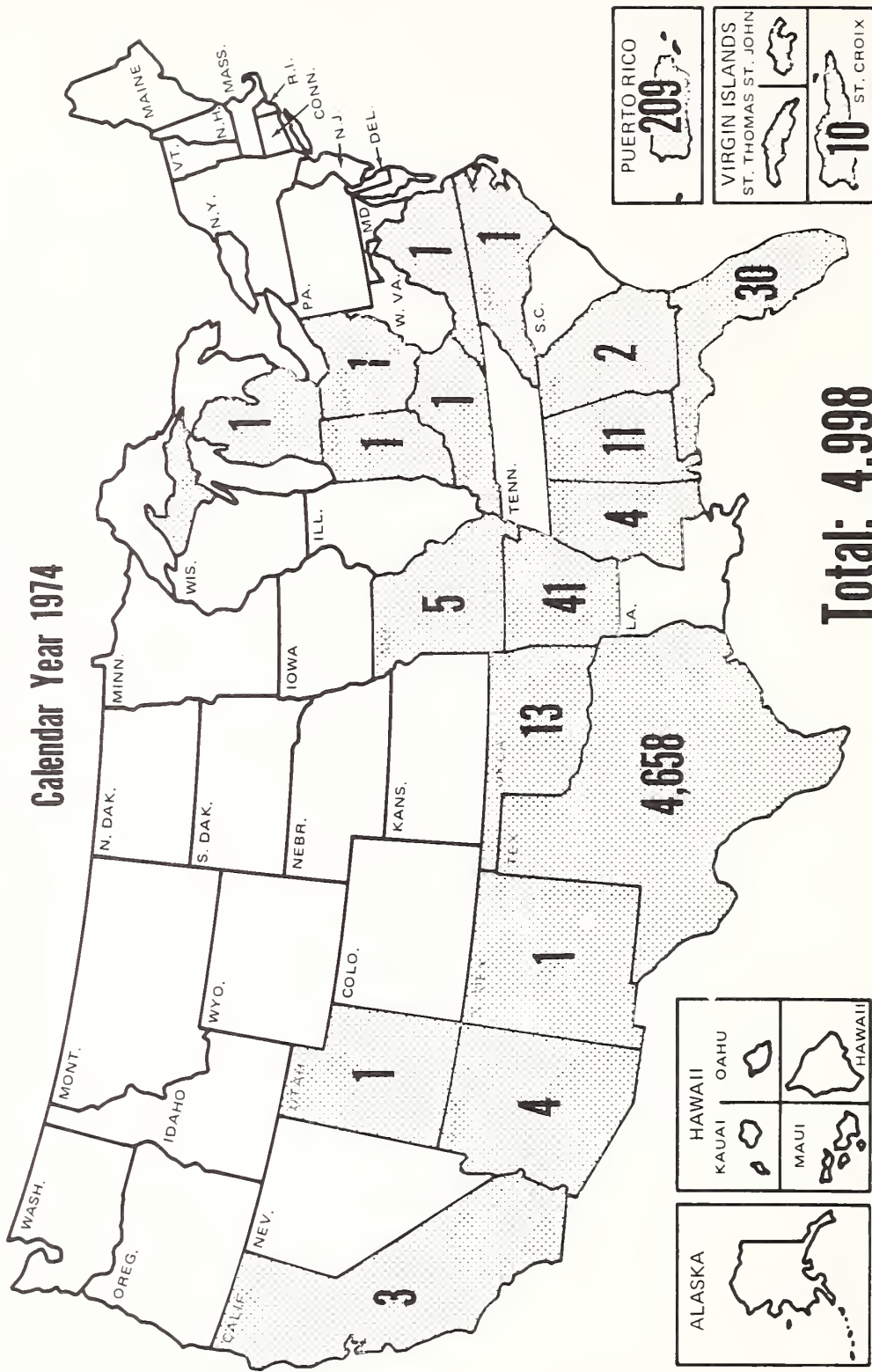
HOST	NATIVE WILDLIFE
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a Ixodes affinis
d Ixodes dentatus
g Amblyomma tuberculatum
t Ixodes texanus

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM CATTLE

Calendar Year 1974



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VETERINARY SERVICES

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

REPORT OF TICKS COLLECTED															PERIOD		CALENDAR YEAR 1974				HOST		CATTLE				
STATE	TOTAL	AMBLIOMMA AMERICANUM	AMBLIOMMA CALIFORNENSE	AMBLIOMMA MONTANA	AMBLIOMMA MACULIPALM	AMBLIOMMA SPP.	ARGAS PERDUCUS	BOOPHILUS ANNULATUS	BOOPHILUS MICROPLUS	BOOPHILUS SPP.	DERMACENTOR ALBERTINUS	DERMACENTOR BREVIPALPS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR NEGLECTUS	DERMACENTOR SPP.	HAEMAPHYSALIS LEYDENSE	HAEMAPHYSALIS SUFFRUTICOLA	IAOXOES COCKLEI	IAOXOES FRONTALIS	IAOXOES SCAPULARIS	IAOXOES SPP.	ORNITHODOROS SPP.	OTODUS MEIGINI	RHINCEPHALUS SINGULIFRONS	RHINCEPHALUS SPP.	MISCELLANEOUS SPP.	
TOTAL	4998	2147	565	13	653	237		16	61	11	228		31	145		605	10	11	1		44	2		200	18		
Alabama	11	2			5								1			3											
Alaska																											
Arizona	4										4																
Arkansas	41	38			1															1				1			
California	3	1			1																			1			
Colorado																											
Connecticut																											
Delaware																											
Florida	30	1			24								1								4						
Georgia	2	1			1																						
Hawaii																											
Idaho																											
Illinois																											
Indiana	1																1										
Iowa																											
Kansas																											
Kentucky	1	1																									
Louisiana																											
Maine																											
Maryland																											
Massachusetts																											
Michigan	1										1																
Minnesota																											
Mississippi	4	1			1												2										
Missouri	5	4																			1						
Montana																											
Nebraska																											
Nevada																											
New Hampshire																											
New Jersey																											
New Mexico	1										1																
New York																											
North Carolina	1	1																									
North Dakota																											
Ohio	1																				1						
Oklahoma	13	7			4																			2			
Oregon																											
Pennsylvania																											
Rhode Island																											
South Carolina																											
South Dakota																											
Tennessee																											
Texas	4638	2089	565	13	616	150 22 ⁿ		16	52	11	221		30			597	1 ^p 9	11	1		39	2		196	17		
Utah	1										1																
Vermont																											
Virginia	1	1																									
Washington																											
West Virginia																											
Wisconsin																											
Wyoming																											
Puerto Rico	209				65 ^v								143												1		
Virgin Islands	10								9				1														

ANH FORM 5-55
MAY 1973

REPLACES AEC FORM 5-55, DEC. 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

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ANH Form 5-55
MAY 1971

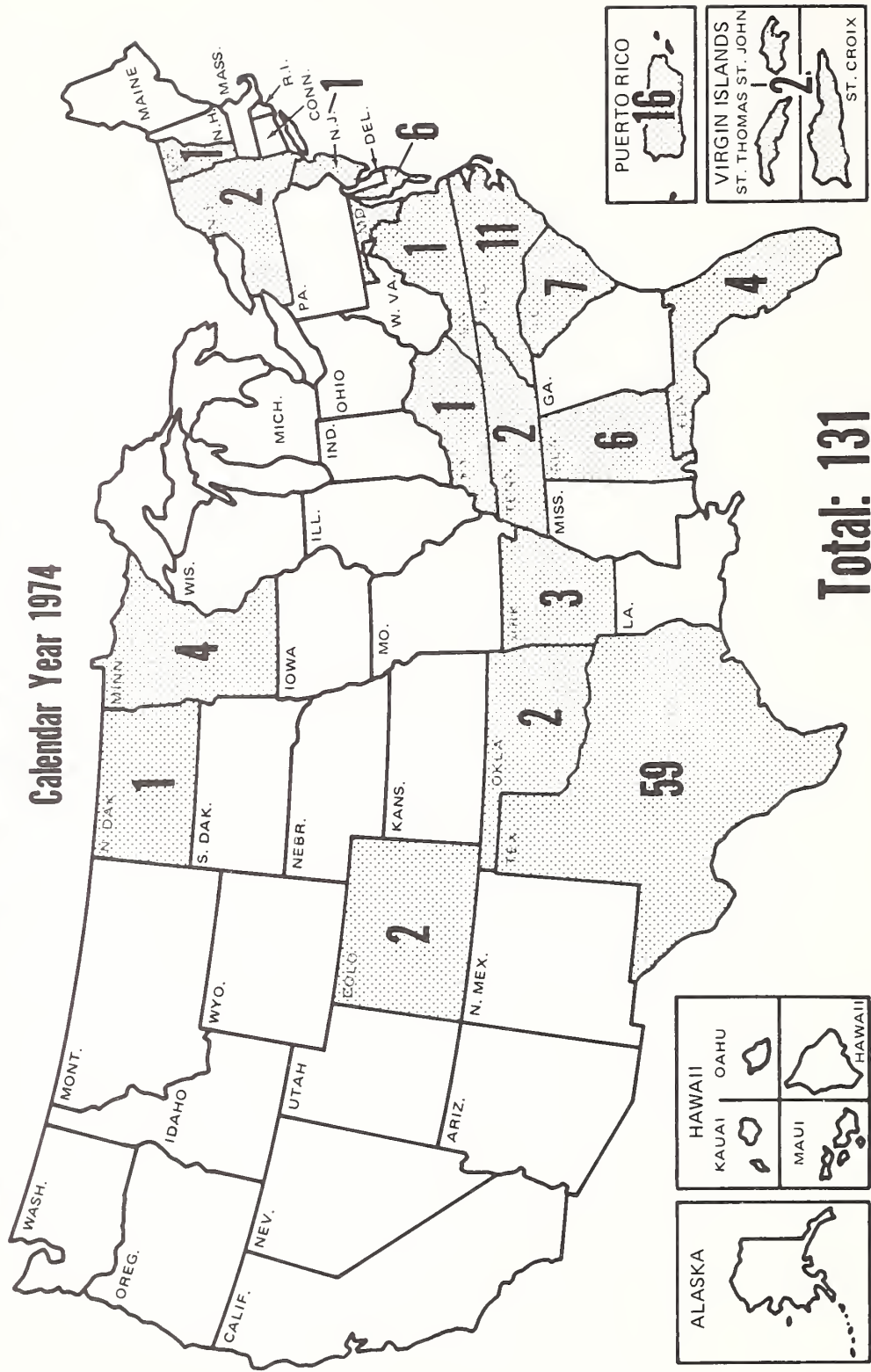
REPLACES ADE FORM 5-65, DEC 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

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Key to Species

- n *Amblyomma inornatum*
- p *Dermacentor parvumapertus*
- v *Amblyomma variegatum*

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM ZOO ANIMALS AND MISCELLANEOUS HOSTS



REPORT OF TICKS COLLECTED														PERIOD		CALENDAR YEAR 1974										HOST: 700 ANIMALS and MISCELLANEOUS HOST (Sheep, Human etc.)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
STATE	TOTAL	AMBL. YOMMA AMERICANA	AMBL. YOMMA CALIF. PENN.	AMBL. YOMMA MEXICANA	AMBL. YOMMA MEXICANA SPP.	ARGAS DEBICUS	BOOPHILUS ANNULATUS	BOOPHILUS MICROPLUS	BOOPHILUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR ALBIPUNCTUS	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	DERMACEENTOR MEXICANUS SPP.	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ANH FORM 5-55
MAY 1971

REPLACES AOC FORM 545, DEC 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

USDA-ARS

Key to Host

BA Boa Constrictor
C Cat
CH Chicken
E Elephant
G Goat
H Human
Q Host not given
RH Rhinoceros
S Sheep
T Tortoise
X Inanimate Object
Y Swine

Key to Species

a *Amblyomma gemma*
b *Argas miniatus*
cc *Rhipicephalus pulchellus*
f *Amblyomma dissimile*
m *Amblyomma marmoreum*
s *Argas pantheri*
th *Amblyomma tholoni*
v *Amblyomma variegatum*
y *Hyalomma truncatum*

[illegible]

Total: 237

PUERTO RICO

24

VIRGIN ISLANDS

ST. THOMAS ST. JOHN

ST. CROIX

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

VETERINARY SERVICES

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

HOST	DOGS
1	1
2	2
3	3
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100	100

ANH FORM 5-55
MAY 1971

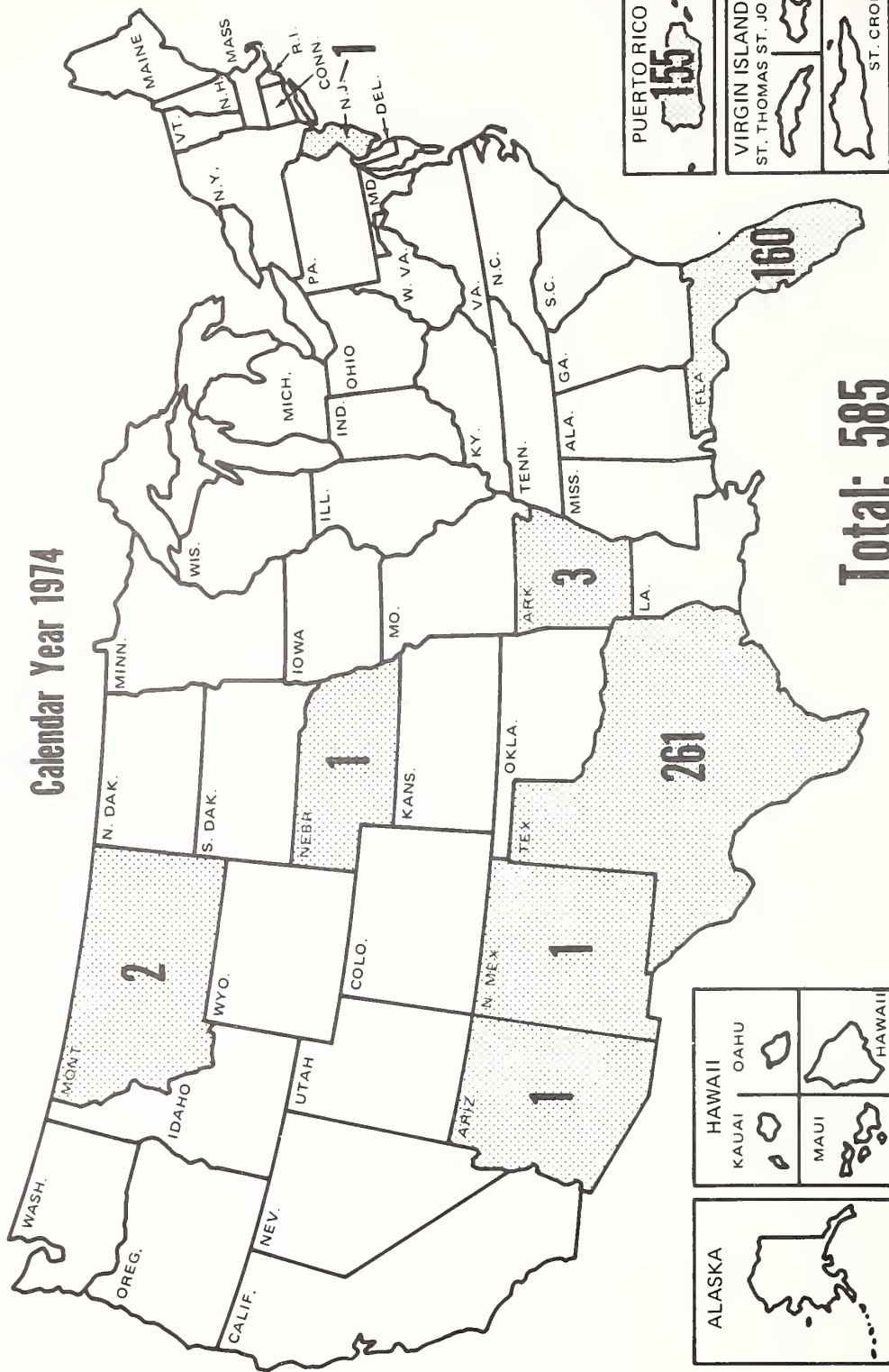
REPLACES AOE FORM 5-55, DEC 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

USDA-ARS

d Ixodes kingi
m Amblyomma imitator
n Amblyomma inornatum

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM HORSES AND MULES

Calendar Year 1974



PERIOD	HOST
CALENDAR YEAR 1974	HORSES AND MULES

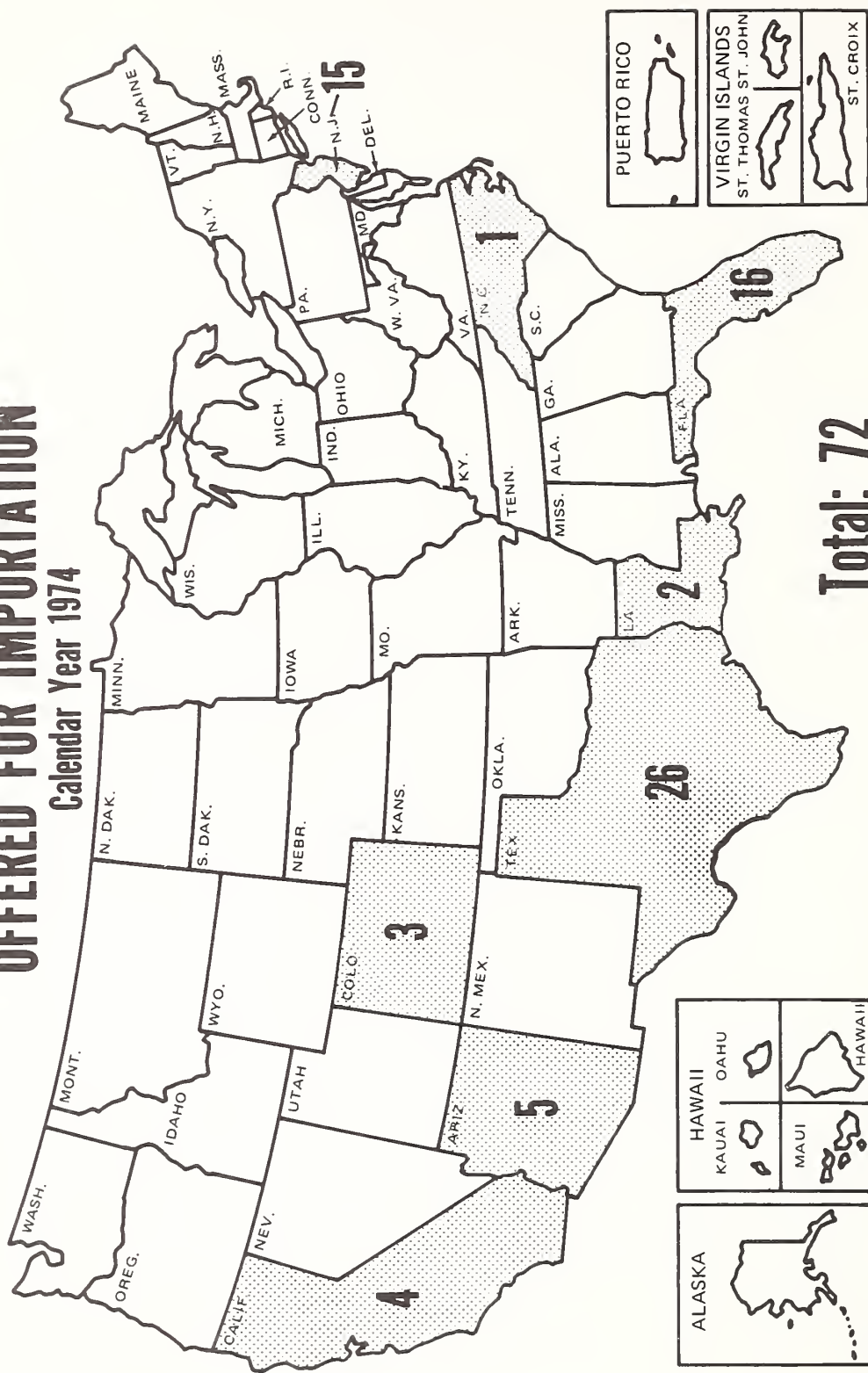
ANH FORM 5-55 MAY 1971 REPLACES AOE FORM 5-55, DEC 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

USDA-ARS

v Amblyomma variegatum

TICK COLLECTIONS FROM ANIMALS AND PRODUCTS OFFERED FOR IMPORTATION

Calendar Year 1974



Total: 72

REPORT OF TICKS COLLECTED														PERIOD	HOST TICKS FOUND ON ANIMALS & PRODUCTS OFFERED FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES									
STATE	TOTAL	AMBL.YOMMA AMERICENUM	AMBL.YOMMA COLEMANI	AMBL.YOMMA INTAIIOR	AMBL.YOMMA MACULALUMI	AMBL.YOMMA SPP.	ARAS FERRUGIS	BOOPHILUS ANNULATUS	BOOPHILUS MICROPS	BOOPHILUS SPP.	DERMACENTOR ALBIPETUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS	DERMACENTOR MEXICANUS
TOTAL	72	1		8		7	4	3	10		1				1									
ARIZONA																								
Nogales	1								180															
Phoenix	4			1LZIT	2T ^a																			
CALIFORNIA																								
Los Angeles	3			1EH ^w					1EK	1DH														
San Francisco	1			1IG ^f																				
COLORADO																								
Denver	3																							1ATP
FLORIDA																								
Miami	16																							158 ^y
LOUISIANA																								
New Orleans	2			1AT ^g																				1X
NEW JERSEY																								
Clifton	15								12 ^d															1GM 1K 1WG ^e 2Z ^f 2HB 1WG ^m 2Z ^g 1BB 1BL 1HB 1LZ ^o
NORTH CAROLINA																								
Wilmington	1														1BG ^h									
TEXAS																								
Brownsville	7	180		180		180	380																	180
Del Rio	1														180									
Eagle Pass	9					680	180	280																
El Paso	7								680	180														
Presidio	2								180															180

ANH FORM 5-55
MAY 1971

REPLACES ADE FORM 545, DEC 1964, WHICH IS OBSOLETE

USDA-ARS

Key to Host

AT Animal Trophies	IX Elk Hide	SB Sunbird
BB Bontbok	GM Gembok	T Tortoise
BG Baggage	HB Hartbeest	WG White-tailed Gnu
BL Blesbok	IG Iguana	X Inanimate object
BO Bovine	K Greater Kudu	Z Zebra
DH Deer Hide	LZ Lizard	
EH Elephant Hide	FM Plant Material	

Key to Species

a Amblyomma marmoreum	h Hamamphysalis sp.
b Amblyomma falsomarmoreum	m Rhipicephalus evertsi mimeticus
d Boophilus decoloratus	o Aponomma exornatum
e Rhipicephalus evertsi evertsi	p Rhipicephalus pulchellus
f Amblyomma dissimile	r Ornithodoros rudis
g Amblyomma gemma	v Amblyomma tholloni
	x Rhipicephalus appendiculatus
	y Hyalomma sp.

Prepared by
Veterinary Services
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Hyattsville, Md. 20782

